

*An
Inaugural
Dissertation*

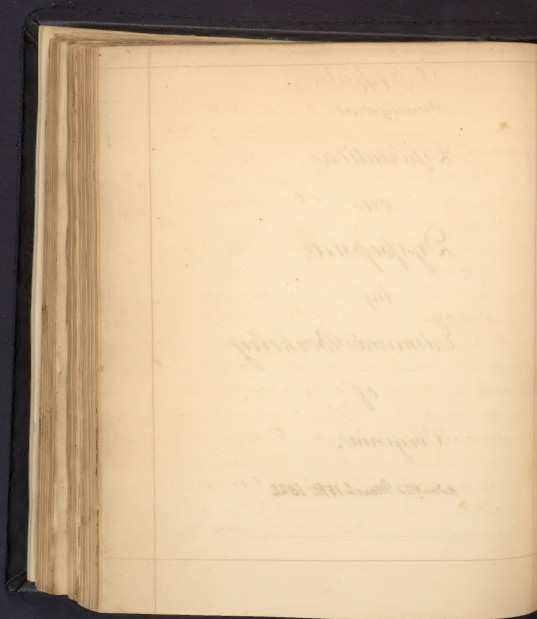
*on
Dyspepsia,
by*

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*of
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#9



Introduction.

In submitting the following imperfect Essay, to the examination of the ~~Board~~ Faculty, it may be well to offer some reason for choosing Dyspepsia, as the subject of an Inaugural Dissertation. It is not with an Idea of throwing any new light, either on the cause or cure of the Disease, but simply because, though a subject worthy of the greatest consideration, it has as yet engaged the particular attention of so few. Were we called to the assistance of a fellow creature, labouring under the painful spasms of Tetanus, or Colic; racked with the excruciating pains of Plurisy, or raving under the Influence of a furious Delirium: we should be induced to think, that these acute, and violent Diseases, demanded our first and greatest attention. But when we reflect, that the sufferings of

patients in such cases, tho extreme, are short; that the subjects of Chronic affections, are sufferers for months, and even years; and during this time, if they are not labouring under acute pains, yet they are completely deprived from all social enjoyment, and left to their gloomy reflections, heightened no doubt by Disease: that their Malady often baffles the greatest Skill, and their days of misery protracted till they have "no pleasure in them"; we shall be willing to allow, that Chronic Diseases justly claim an important consideration. In this Class of Diseases, Dyspepsia holds an important place. The consequence of a depraved condition of that function, by which the whole animal Economy is supported, must be apparent; and an enquiry into the nature of the causes and cure of that condition, cannot be unimportant. Considering the number of Medical Writers, who have lately published their opinions to the world; it appears somewhat sin-

gular, that so interesting a subject as the present, should have escaped their attention.

If there are disorders which cause more acute suffering, and whose general termination is more fatal, yet there are none in which the aggregate suffering of the Patient is greater, and in which his situation is, for so long a time, and so truly deplorable, as in Dyspepsia. Moreover, the nature of the remote and proximate causes, the numerous train of Diseases, which may be induced by it, and for which it may be mistaken; the important Station in life, of those who are most liable to its attacks, together with the uncertainty, if not the difficulty of its cure; all conspire to render it a subject, not unworthy of talents, which have often been bestowed upon subjects, of infinitely less importance. Therefore in this attempt, I feel and acknowledge, my total inability; and beg that, an eye of leniency, may be cast over all my fail.

ings. If in offering my opinions, or differing from others, I have at any time expressed myself harshly, I deny all intention to offend. as I have always quoted the Ideas, rather than the words of authors, it may be supposed, that I intend them as original, but to originality, I disclaim all title: and candidly acknowledge that my Ideas have been collected from Authors whom I have read, or the Lectures which I have attended in the University of Pennsylvania, and should the Faculty see fit to honour me with that mark of Distinction, at which, this Essay is an attempt, it shall ever be my first wish to deserve it, and to use my best efforts towards the advancement of Medical Science, and the benefit of Mankind.

Before treating of Dyspepsia, or a diseased state of the Digestive Organs, it may not seem proper to say something of the Natural, or healthy Process of Digestion. In doing which, after so many Physiologists have failed, I shall not attempt anything new; but shall simply describe the process of Assimilation, together with the most probable causes, as related by the most modern and approved authorities. Happily for Man, the pain arising from the Sensation of Hunger, and the pleasure resulting from its Gratification, together with that innate principle of Self-preservation, offer inducements sufficient to overcome his native Indolence and love of ease. When the Stomach becomes empty, and thus deprived of its accustomed Stimulus - exposed also to the undiverted action of the Gastric Fluid - and perhaps suffering an unusual irritation, from the unsupported



weight of the liver - in the action of the tongue is
 produced. To satisfy the cravings of nature,
 the food is introduced into the mouth, there by the
 action of the Muscles, the tongue and Buccin-
 ator Muscles, it is broken down, and mixed with
 the Saliva - being formed into a mass, it is pressed
 by the tongue against the palate - carried
 backwards and upwards, where it meets with
 the Uvula - the Velum palatinum is raised,
 and by the action of the Palatine Muscles, the
 Pharynx and Oesophagus, it is forced into the
 Stomach. The food that is introduced into the
 Stomach, fitted for the organs of digestion, is
 immediately acted on by the gastric juices
 which assisted by the warmth of the part,
 penetrates and completely dissolves it. The
 nature of the food taken in, is now entirely
 changed, and brought into an homogeneous
 Mass, so that the quality of its particles can
 be distinguished. But the food though altered,



is not yet prepared, or the nourishment of the
 Septima it was still to undergo considerable
 changes, by the actions of other parts of the
 Digestive apparatus. When the aliment becomes
 mixed with the fluids of the Stomach, the mass
 is considerably increased in bulk; the stimulus of
 distention, then causes the peristaltic motion of
 the Stomach to increase, by which its contents are
 carried through the Oesophagus & into the Duo-
 denum, there to be subjected to the action of the
 Bile and Pancreatic juice. The irritation arising
 from a distention of the Duodenum with the
 Chyme, propagated to the gall-bladder, causes an
 increased discharge of Bile, which together with
 the pancreatic fluid, is poured in considerable
 quantities into the cavity of the Intestine, and
 mixes with its contents. By the action of these
 fluids on the Chyme, its properties become great-
 ly altered, from a pulsatous, indurated colored
 mass, it is converted into a whitish, milkier



fluid, denominated chyle. This venous, by which the Chyme, is converted into Chyle, has been supposed to be purely chemical. But to this opinion, an insuperable objection arises, which is, that the process cannot be imitated without the body. When two substances of different natures, are brought together, and a third is produced, having qualities differing from either of the ingredients, it cannot be denied that the action is chemical; but it is only contended, that this action is dependent on a principle, which does not assist it out of the Stomach.

This principle, is assumed to be a certain Energy, by which we are carried on, in the operation of the various Processes. It has been proved by experiment, that a digestive agency is the result of a certain, complicated, information, and that it is evident, that some Influence conveyed by the secret is essential to the perfection of that process.



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It has been shown that it has been objected to our
view, & to this experiment that a vibration
applied to, or a division of, the eighth pair
of Nerves, certainly affects the Respiratory, and
Digestive Organs; consequently, an effect deduc-
ed from a division of these nerves, or a vibra-
tion applied to them, is unsatisfactory; as
the arrangement, situated in the Digestive
Power, may arise from the general irrita-
tion of the Nerve. But admitting this,
the interruption of the Nervous Energy, as
the immediate cause of the arrangement
of the Digestive organ, is sufficiently clear.
We will even suppose that there is no direct
interruption of the Nervous Influence, supply-
ing the Stomach, but that only when sup-
plies the organs of Respiration, this Nervous
Energy then, being necessary to the healthy
performance of the function of Respiration,
and this, except being more immediate, is



seems to be preservation of life, on the Ne-
 cessary Energy, & more frequently, supplies the Nerve
 line required, is now excited or delayed, a more im-
 perfect function, and, even the Nerve is
 deprived of its own sensation. The effect of Ner-
 veline, which we would ascribe to the Sept-
 ima, intense Torment, or the in action of Inf-
 lammation, delays the Nerve's function
 on the same principle, viz: by exciting an inter-
 ruption to a more distribution of the Nervous
 energy. The value of this important agent, it
 is not now just to investigate, nor do I affirm, and
 that is that we can exactly ascertain: for the
 materials that have been bestowed on the subject,
 and many theories advanced, do not yet ex-
 hibit a reason, and that remains inexplicable;
 and must continue so, till the connection between
 Brain and Nerve is more fully understood.



Having thus briefly considered the
 groups of Diseases in a healthy connection we
 now turn to that part of our subject, which treats
 of a morbid state of that function.

Dyspepsia, or Indigestion, is, caused by
 various, in the cases, increased, order, & determinations,
 and is thus defined, *Truncus, laesio, veniens,*
inflatio, viscus, tumescit, carilivis, gastr-
opis, paucis, altum, vel plura horum simul
concurrentia, peremptum cum acie digesta, et
sine acie vel ventriculi optimi vel alicuius par-
tium morbo.

Dyspepsia generally affects persons of a middle
 age, though no age is exempt from its attack.
 It usually commences with epigastric affections, flatulency,
 and sometimes vomiting, distensions of the Stomach,
 eructations, heartburn, &c. in the re-
 gion of the stomach, and colicness. *Dyspepsia*
 is often depressed, and the patient calls



variously, sometimes in very hot localities, though there is a complete diarrhoea in some.

There is also feverishness, with almost constant thirst, pains of the extremities, and in some cases around the case of the disease, an insatiable voracity. Besides these the patient is often agitated with tremors, faintness, and a blue or purple spot on the face, resulting from the action of the vessels, and the action of the mind is extremely disturbed and disordered. The countenance expressive of the greatest anxiety, the pulse is frequent and feeble, though in some cases, the slightest exercise produces fatigue, even the most moderate. However the night there is extreme restlessness and the sleep which of such little refreshment, is disturbed with startings and flighted dreams. Occasionally there is much vomiting, with a green or white stool in the night, and sometimes the disease is complicated with dysentery.



Proximate cause.

As it is not in the immediate view of the stomach, as evidence, as evidence as the proximate cause - *vis vis* - Some have supposed it to be dependent on a disturbance of the glands subservient to the digestive functions and others, a deficiency of the gastric power. That a gastric cause, could take place in Dyspepsia, will not be denied, but this we consider as an effect & not true cause. It is evident that a defect of tone in the muscular fibres of the stomach, cannot account for a derangement of the process of digestion, since that, presupposes the result of muscular action. A vitiated circulation of the fluids of the stomach and even to a large quantity, is readily admitted as occurring in Dyspepsia but this we likewise attribute to a more remote cause, of which it is true, an effect since there can be no derangement of the fluids, but this of the medium of the fluids. This deranged circulation of the fluids then, may be traced to the impurity of the muscular fibre, but this is manifestly a remote, as the



that is, a persistent cause, which remains to be examined. We have shown, that by a division of the eighth pair of Nerves, Digestion is greatly hindered, & that our liver stops, consequently the system governed by these Nerves, in relation to the Digestive organs, and a deficiency of it, must be the proximate cause of all morbid action in the Stomach. It is this cause we attribute the dyspepsia, or the various disorders of the Stomach, and even dyspepsia, modulation of the gastric fluids. All the circumstances which tend to direct, or restrain this secretory function, we consider as the

Remote Causes.

These are considered by Cullen of two kinds.

First: Those which act directly on the Stomach.

Second: Those which act upon the whole body, and in consequence of which, the Stomach is indirectly affected.

Among those of the First Kind, he considers,

1st The relaxing, or astringent, sedative, or stimulant, as
 Tea, coffee, Tobacco, &c. &c.





frequent cause of the rejection of saliva, is the use
 of tobacco; and when we reflect how universal is the
 practice of chewing tobacco, we must acknowledge
 that neither this, nor the rejection of saliva, is an
 essential consequence of it, it is so common a cause of dys-
 pepsia, as is commonly imagined. Yet an abuse of
 tobacco, I wish by no means to exclude as a remote
 cause of Dyspepsia. Does Dyspepsia ever occur
 in consequence of Salivary Stasis, where great
 quantities of saliva are daily disengaged?

The second class of causes laid down, seems
 to admit of another division, into

- I. Those which act directly on the Stomach, and
- II. Those which affect it through the Medium of
 the Mind.

Those which act directly on the body are,

1. An indolent and sedentary life.
2. Excessive Cough.
3. Frequent Intoxication.
4. Exposure to moisture and cold winter Exercise.



The rest of these mountains are volcanic types.

But we take a summary of the doctrine we shall find it
to consist in the fact, examined of the influence of
Exercise, that health is in proportion to the degree
of Exercise taken. Some writers are to be understood
as saying, that the more Exercise, the longer man is
sufficient to maintain the faculties to resist infection
to, or since the condition of man, there have been
outlets to his existence, and the sciences of Physi-
cians have with every other means, must ever be
instrumental to the preservation of Disease. Paradoxically
twice it is understood an exemption from Chronic
or Epidemic affections, and the term Chronic, I in-
tend in a qualified sense, since Chronic affections
may include those diseases, & even eruptions, being
burning, paining, & den. acute, and finally termina-
ting, are comparative, and, though disturbing
and violent, a gradual return from Chronic con-
ditions, & in a great measure dependent upon some
prolonged Exercise.



Though it is far from my intention to attribute the con-
gevity of the ancient inhabitants of the East, to the
labour which was then necessary for their support, yet
undoubtedly, it is a natural means, greatly contributed
to the universal health which reigned among them.

Those eastern monarchs or men, who banishment
or Abstinence, was in that desolation there was
surveys as it tended to counteract their numerous ill
which accompanied the curse, and soon was pla-
ced in the garden of Eden to be a man to keep
it." We have tentatively incited through the
ladies to feelings, and we doubt, the ancient
climate was in vain, among all its advantages
the health of his creatures. But need we go so far in
its antiquity, to be the benefit, nothing from active
our government? Let us look into the habits of the
same people, and consider the different degrees
which, among the nations of the East, we find. The
difference of nations is without comparison, and
though he be used more sparingly, he is not





like, we have disease and pain. The opinion
of the British and American Surgeons, that the
inflammation of the lungs is a local disease,
is, however, is subject to a train of ideas, from
which, his final view, is, that the lungs are
diseased. Can we consider the influence of
the lungs on the internal economy, the great
importance of disease, and the extensive sym-
ptoms which exist between it and all parts of the body,
we shall not be surprised that any one disease of this
case applied to the system, would generally, would
produce gastric diseases. To the production of these
diseases, acts of the lungs and the heart, some so-
mewhat remarkable. When there is a swelling of the
arteries of the lungs, the system is rendered in want
of that force, which is thereby induced in the
part most debilitated becomes the organs incapable
of performing their functions. Now if the Roman
then, we not primarily affected, it quickens signs
from the intimate connection between it and



[illegible]



[illegible]





such as violent purgation, the glands become inflamed, and their secretory action is suspended.

The next cause is "frequent intoxication," and the accompanying consequences of this habit, namely, is so common and so violent, as to require a ^{particular} serious consideration. The medical treatment of this cause, is sufficiently clear. The nervous energy is exerted to resist the attack of a debauching evening, which, by its increased exertion, it succeeds in overcoming, but at length being exhausted, and the stimulus withdrawn, the necessary agency, the digestive organs cease to perform their natural functions. The system thus being deprived of the means of renewing exertion, it becomes necessary to resign the excitement on the stomach, and the wretched victim of indolence is obliged either gradually to diminish the stimulus, and then, for some time, to resign; or, and in a spot of a miserable existence, to continue a function, which even seems to cease, and so that situation.











vision of the mind is a unduly increased, or excessive
any circumstances of an injury come to a such extent
means, by which the vital functions exerted to an
excessive exertion in its demand.

Now in the course of this essay, could the con-
nection between Leptopteria and hypochondriasis, be
more strongly convinced, than under the view of the
various causes of the disease. Feeling which, as my
sentiments are opposite to some of the most respectable
authorities of our country, I shall scarcely be able
to offer a sufficient apology. But as no practical dif-
ference can arise from this variety of opinion, I shall
without hesitation, recur to the examination of
the subject. That a degree of hypochondriasis does
take place, in consequence of a diseased condition
of the alimentary canal, as Lem's's term it is
that opinion, I presume will not be denied, but
as that hypochondriasis, as an "idiopathic disease, origi-
nating in the mind, does occur, not satisfactorily convin-
ced, and in such a belief, shall briefly state my



reasons. Dr Caldwell, in his edition of Gullen's First
 Lines, under article Hypochondriasis, gives us his rea-
 sons for an entirely opposite opinion. He says, "ac-
 cording to the former, that the depression of spirits &c, origi-
 nate in a morbid condition of the Stomach. on
 that organ, is produced, by some cause, an irritation
 sui generis, which constitutes the actual source of the
 disease." Did this irritation, sui generis, constitute the
 source of the disease, should it ^{not} universally precede
 any affection of the mind? But it is well known
 that Hypochondriasis does occur, without any pre-
 vious Gastric Disorder, and indeed may exist for
 a length of time without the occurrence of any
 affection of the Stomach. Considering our imper-
 fect knowledge of the connexion between mind and
 matter, would not the most reasonable conclusion
 be, that the cause of this irritation sui generis, was
 seated in the Mind; and that the affection of the
 Stomach, was symptomatic of the mental disorder?
 The first argument adduced by Doctor in



Caldwell, I consider equally applicable to the converse of the Proposition, viz. The causes which produce Hypochondriasis, produce Gastric disorder. The second, pallor of the complexion &c, and all the circumstances, mentioned under the third and fourth heads I consider as entirely inconclusive; these occurrences being symptomatic of the Gastric affection, which has for its original cause, the Mental disease. The facts stated under head 3th, I conceive to militate completely against the Doctor's argument. viz. that the sensations are always referred to the Stomach and Bowels, What I would ask is Sensation? It is the result of an impression, conveyed to the Sensorium. What impression then could be made on the Stomach and Bowels, to convey to the Sensorium, the Idea of a man's pregnancy, a flock of birds, gnawing the aliment, a mechanical work in the Bowels? I presume it is evident, there can be none. Therefore it must be through the medium of a disordered Imagination, acted upon by



some external cause, that such an impression is produced, and carried by sympathy to the abdominal viscera. The brain and nerves being the seat of the mental disease, and also of the Nervous Influence, the one cannot occur, without a change of the other. The Sensorium being disordered erroneous impressions are produced, and erroneous sensations propagated, hence, a natural distribution of the nervous Energy, if it can take place, is in a measure accidental. For example, that which should have supplied the extremities, is by a kind of error of Loci, sent to some of the abdominal or thoracic viscera. And thus are created those false sensations referred to. I will only add, that were Hypochondriacs, deficient in a natural condition of the alimentary canal, would not the cure be much more certainly accomplished? Yet how often a medical skill completely baffled, are we constrained to exclaim, "Canst thou now Minister to a mind diseased?"



Diagnosis.

Here we to consider all the Diseases with which we are
 acquainted, might be compared, with all the characteristic symp-
 toms of each, the limits of an inaugural dissertation
 would be far exceeded. We shall therefore confine our-
 selves to a few of the most important and be assured,
 it would most certainly be mistaken, and first of Hypo-
 chondriasis. Dyspepsia may be distinguished from
 Hypochondriasis, by the more frequent occurrence of the
 latter, in persons of advanced age, and of a more sedentary
 temperament. In Dyspepsia, the mind is less affected;
 the anxiety, restlessness, suspicious disposition, want of
 resolution and activity, and fear of death, which char-
 acterize Hypochondriasis, are absent, or if present, are much
 slighter, and always subsequent to the Dyspeptic symp-
 toms. Symptoms of Dyspepsia, sometimes occur
 in mania, but here, the mental disease is ob-
 viously previous to the gastric affection. It may also
 be distinguished from Dyspepsia, by the one being gen-
 erally the result of loss diet, the other, of luxuriant



livings. The symptoms of the one occur mostly in the morning, on an empty stomach; the other is common at all times, especially after meals, when the stomach is loaded; the discharge from the stomach, in the one case, is fluid and acid, in the other, it partakes of the nature of the food taken in, and has a solid consistency.

Perhaps there is no method by which organic affection of the stomach, can be distinguished from Dyspepsia, arising from other causes, except it be, that in the first case, few of the usual causes of Dyspepsia are present, and that its attack is more sudden and unaccountable.

Palpitations which arise from organic affections of the heart, may be distinguished from those occurring as symptomatic of Dyspepsia, by the pulsations of the artery at the wrist, in the former, corresponding with the diastole and systole of the heart. [Corvisart.]

Prognosis

"This Disease though not often of itself fatal, yet frequently gives rise to other



diseases, which finally destroy the Patient. The difficulty of cure, is somewhat dependant on the nature of the remote cause. If it be such as is easily removed, and the disease be not long standing; the patient young, and naturally of a healthy & robust constitution, we may hope for a speedy cure. But if the cause be not very obvious, the disease of long continuance, and the patient of a delicate constitution, or of a leucophlegmatic habit, we may be afraid of the extreme difficulty of the case.

Cure.

In the cure of Dyspepsia, three important indications are to be fulfilled.

First: To remove the remote cause.

Secondly, To palliate present urgent Symptoms.

Thirdly, To restore tone to the Stomach.

First, To remove the remote causes.

In removing the remote causes of Dyspepsia, it will be necessary to avoid every thing, likely to pro-



duce gastric diseases by acting directly on the stomach; and here must be considered every irregularity of diet, both as to quality and quantity. Those persons who pervert a depraved appetite with highly seasoned aliments, must relinquish the "pleasures of the table."

Those who are given to the immoderate use of tobacco, or have fallen into the more pernicious habit of using opium, or other narcotics, whether for the purpose of allaying the pain of bodily disease, or soothing the anguish of mental afflictions, must resign this point, as fatal delusion, or a whole of miserable consequences. Those causes which affect the body generally, should likewise be avoided. And, first, an indolent life. Those who are in circumstances not requiring their personal exertions, in order to support them, should be convinced of the importance of exercise. The Fashionable Person must forsake his beloved amusements; and seek not to distort the form, which nature has given him, by the ridiculous, as well as hurtful inventions



of Power. He must care to be the stay of Justice, or become the victim of Misuse. The Debaucher must give up his vices to the House of God in policy, and turn the image of a miscreant man, or incur the penalty. A Master of Intemperance must restrain his evil propensity, and put his mind right. Devils, or even, have turned by him the reach of Hellfire. His evil acts of passion must endanger as much as his name, to avoid the serious danger which would be made likely to bring into action such a course. The unhappy, superstitious slave is instructed in all instruments superior, and his despising mind cheered with every reasonable hope.

The Students must exchange their accounts, journal of Science, for more active employments more time must be devoted to sleep, and a well regulated exercise. That the removal of the remote cause of Disease, is absolutely necessary, must be evident; as well might we attempt to extinguish the fire of a furnace, by pouring water from above, when fresh fuel was



added below, we attempt the removal of a train of symptoms,
which the reader will observe is little.

The Second Indication is, to, indicate present urgent or
urgent Symptoms. The symptoms which proceed in
Dyspepsia, and which not only distress the patient, but
also tend to keep up the disease, may be reduced to three
kinds. 1st Cruditie in the stomach.

2^d Acidity.

3^d Costiveness.

The first of these is to be removed by Emetics. It
has been contended by some, that vomiting is always
harmful in dyspepsia, by rejecting the gastric fluid,
and thus rendering it impossible for digestion to
be performed; but independently of the practice being
founded on the experience of the most respectable au-
thorities, it can also be supported by Argument. And
we admit a decrease of the gastric juice, as the
proximate cause of the disease, we should necessarily
condemn vomiting. But as we consider a deficiency, or
a diminution of this fluid, only as an effect, the cause



which is often removed by vomiting, we must con-
sult for the 'purity' of the practice. The benefi-
cial effects of emetics, are not confined to the mere
evacuation of the stomach, but the operation of
vomiting, so far overcomes its morbid action, as to
enable the system to react, and restore the Ner-
vous Energy to that organ. In order, accord-
ingly, we should first, avoid as much as possible, all
depressant food; and secondly, correct what is unavoid-
ably produced, by alkalis, and absorbents. The carbonic
acid is said to be, singularly, and not worth, pointed
in experience, as more acid: liberated from the solid
than volatile acides. Lime water and milk, are
saccharine remedies of our friends. Some have been in-
dicated, the carbonic acid water may be used, to
correct acidity, and remove obstructions. Secondarily, sto-
mic State from the latter occur, the cretaceous salts,
combined with Lactarium, is a very judicious employ-
ment. A vomiting in many states of dyspepsia, is accom-
panied with 'acid' & 'fermentive'



affections of the Stomach, not been employed, with a Sangu-
fuge. It is the business of sickness chills, and fevers.

This remedy appears to unite two advantages, by
correcting acidity, and restoring tone to the Stomach.

The effects of the medicine have been attributed
to the Sub-carb. pot. which, it contains; but in this
opinion, we cannot entirely acquiesce, since it has
occurred where the Sub-carb. pot. was, indeed, and may
not the different effects, be ascribed to some other, in-
gredients in the impurities, of the infusion?

The best, sort of diet, and condiments, still remains to be consid-
ered, and to remove costiveness. Thin maliculous wines and
an emollient in which have been recommended; but among
an principally aromatised, and which always leave a dispo-
sition to costiveness, we think them somewhat objec-
tionable. A mucous one, even in decoction, it is, perhaps
best combined with some resinous or balsamic extractive,
as the Lac Turpensis. But when the hospital fever
above mentioned, has passed the exanthematic stage.

Perhaps, a judicious selection of an emollient would



most effectually answer this indication. If nausea and vomiting occur, the stomach should not be relaxed by an emetic. The diet should be strictly attended to, and those articles only eaten, which are light and easy of digestion. If the bowels are relaxed, it should not be checked, but rather a mild stimulant administered. If the quantity of urine is small, if the sediment must be considered as thick and viscid, it should be rejected. The urine of milk, when it interbears of lumps of case, throughout the days and this position continued on a constant basis. These signs require a more active treatment, which I will attend to the 17th. parts of medicine, for constant months. So much can cannot be put down in this part of the treatment, nor so long as new nursing children are referred to the treatment, it is impossible for a similar action to be established. If nausea and vomiting continue after the stomach is relaxed, spirits should be administered. Hookburn as soon as some- times dependent on the presence of an acid, and some-



sense of an alibi, must be removed by the administra-
 tion of a corrective diet of Condiments. Emulsa-
 tions can only be admitted, by affording the relief of
 fermentation in the Stomach; which has been
 long restoring its tone. The sense of weight about
 the stomach, oppression, flatulency, and belching, which
 occur in long illness, when the "acid is exhausted"
 too much, as in the Vermach, &c. or in simple
 dyspepsia, must be removed by a stimulus.
 These symptoms can only be mitigated, by removing
 the existing causes. No stimulus should be
 given to be finished, but the acid should be at-
 tended to by "Mild general Indications, to
 restore tone to the Stomach."

Having adopted this indication in removal of
 acids, who considered, preserving the proximate
 cause, it may seem that I am departing from my
 first principle, but such supposition will appear
 groundless, when I state, that a copious, active
 muscular action of the Stomach, is essential to the



immediate consequence, a depurancy of Nervous Energy, and a restoration of tone, consequently, must be the first essential part of substituting a new supply of this power. Therefore as we can never judge of the removal of the Nervous cause, by a removal of its effects, it seems reason to alter this indication, which is now commonly adopted. This Indication then, is to be rejected, 1st By those remedies which act immediately on the Stomach, and 2^d By those which act on the System generally. The first of these may again be divided into those, or taken from the vegetable, and those from the Mineral Kingdom.

The Vegetable Bitters and Aromatics, as *Peppermint*, &c. &c. have all been employed with a view of strengthening the Stomach. The *Cinchona cortex*, *Adrope*, and *Valeriana*, are perhaps the most useful. A remedy combining the property of a tonic with that of an anodyne, has lately been highly recommended in Dyspepsia I mean the common *Hops*; and is entitled to no small degree of notice. The *Specacuan*.

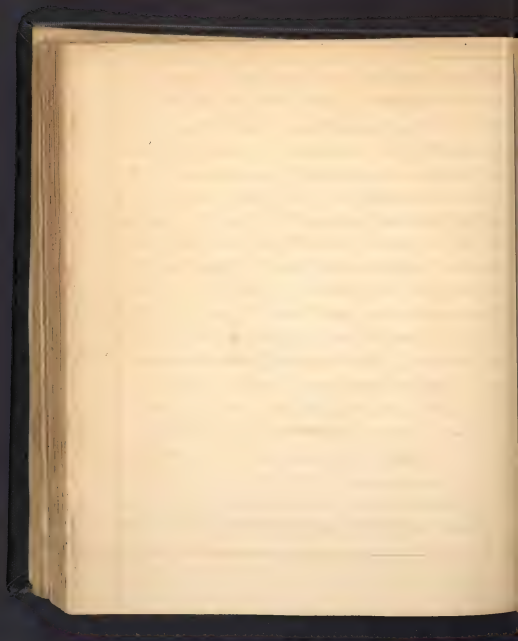


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has, in small doses, with a view to its alterant effect, has
been successfully employed in this disease. I must not
omit to mention a remedy, the efficacy of which, though
not a personal witness, I can vouch for, as respectable
authorities. It is the Bark of a species of the oak,
common throughout our country, called the Scrub
oak. The S. berberis tinture of the inner bark,
was used; the disease was obstinate and distressing, and
had baffled respectable Medical Skill; this reme-
dy was resorted to, and succeeded in a short time in
restoring the healthy action of the Stomach.

The remedies derived from the Mineral King-
dom, which have been used in Dyspepsias are all
the Mineral acids, particularly the Sulphuric; of
this, the Dilute Sulphuric is, perhaps the most pleasant,
and usually, useful form. The French Martin has
been recommended, and also the oxide of Bismuth.
But of all the Saline Preparations, the Mururate of Soda
is said to excel. The effluvia, preparations have
been universally employed, to give tone to the Stomach.



mach, and often with advantage. With this view, the
various chalybeate waters of our Country have been
resorted to, by Dyspeptics, and no doubt with hap-
py effects. But their efficacy is greatly increas-
ed by many concomitant circumstances. The ex-
ercise of travelling, the change of scene, and
delightful Society, generally met with at watering
places, all conspire, not only to give tone to the
system, but also by diverting the thoughts of the
desponding Invalid, from his situation, and thus
breaking the chain of disease action, the Sto-
mach is rendered more susceptible of the remedies
directed to it. The last part of the Indication,
consists in the use of such remedies as give tone
to the Stomach, through the Medium of the
General System. The cold and tepid baths, have
not been beautifully employed. Water Dyspep-
sia has arisen from an obstruction of any of the
Chyliferous Vessels, a course of Mercurials has been
attended with the happiest effects. Great benefit



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has been often experienced, from the application of
a Blister to the region of the Stomach.

But in addition to all the above remedies, the pa-
tient must avoid every cause of debility; regular
exercise should be taken, and one third of his
time at least, devoted to his pillow. He should ex-
change a town, for a country life, his occupa-
tion within doors, for the sports of the field, where
the body is exercised, and the mind diverted. He
should be entertained with the Society of a few select
friends, and indulged with a hope of recovery, if
reasonable; and lastly, to keep his mind untroubled,
he should strive to preserve a conscience void of of-
fence, and leave the event in the hands of the
Disposer of Life and Death...

